town. The levels of Fecal Coligorms (bacterial indicator for health concerns) are also reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit of 2500 MPN (Most Probable Number) per 100 milliliter at many of the monitoring stations along river Ganga except in upstream locations of Haridwar.

(c) No report is available with the Government in this regard.

(d) The Ministry, since 1985, has been implementing the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) for pollution abatement activities in the identified polluted stretches of river Ganga. Under this Plan a total sewage treatment capacity of 1765.34 million litres per day has been created so far for Ganga and its major tributaries. Despite phenomenal increase in the urban population along the banks of the river leading to increased pollution loads, the water quality of river Ganga has shown discernible improvement in terms of organic pollution at major locations, over the pre-Action Plan water quality.

Problem of e-waste

1427. SHRIB. J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that India is reeling under mounds of e-waste generated due to worn-out electronic goods like computers, cell phones and televisions etc.,

(b) whether Government is also aware that in the European Union countries it is mandatory for the manufacturing companies to recycle the e-waste, but India is turning a blind eye to the accumulation of the above harmful e-waste; and

(c) if so, the action plan of Government to address this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Based on a survey conducted under the guidance of the Central Pollution Conrol Board (CPCB) it has been estimated that about 1,46,000 tons of Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment [WEEE] is generated annually in the country.

(b) and (c) According to WEEE Directives of the European Union (EU), waste electrical or electronic equipments which include all components consumables etc. after use are to be disposed off as per the provisions of their National Law enforced. Further, EU directives focus on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipments which has come into force with effect from January, 2007. These directives provide for the reduction and elimination of hazardous substances used in electrical and electronic equipments.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2003 which regulate the generation, collection, storage, treatment, disposal as well as export and import of hazardous wastes, which include e-waste. The processes generating hazardous wastes are listed in Schedule 1 of these rules. The residues and wastes generated from the operations in electronic industry are already considered as hazardous wastes and are included at Sl.No. 31 of Schedule 1 of these rules. Further, the import and export of e-waste is also regulated under Schedule 3 of

these rules. As per the provisions of these rules, the import of e-waste is regulated under Schedule 3 of these rules wherein Electrical and Electronic Assemblies are covered under category A 1180 in the list A and B 1110 in list B of the Schedule 3. The import of such waste is permitted only for direct reuse and not for recycling of final disposal.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests had also constituted a Task Force to finalise the Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste for the State pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of the union Territories and the industries for handling e-waste. Guidelines have since been finalised for the Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste.

Pollution of river Ganga

1428. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there are 41 points of sewerage discharge in Ganga river at Kanpur city due to which whole river has turned into dirty pool;

(b) whether Government is aware that now when the Magh Mela is going on, the Ganga is polluted beyond belief;

(c) whether Government is aware that Ganga has receded beyond the Ghats and Ghats have become very filthy;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(e) the amount of money that was sanctioned and spent on clean Ganga project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per the Central pollution Control Board (CPCB), there are 23 drains identified at Kanpur carrying sewage, out of which 19 drains have been tapped so far. Under Ganga Action Plan Phase-I, treatment capacity of 171 mid (million litres per day) has been created in Kanpur out of total sewage generation of 439 mid in the town.

(b) The CPCB monitored the water quality of rivers Ganga and Yamuna at various locations, including Sangam at Allahabad and found no appreciable change in water quality due to increase in fresh water flow in the river during the last Magh Mela.

(c) and (d) The river banks generally encounter silting problem due to occasional - recession of river water level. The concerned local bodies undertake periodic cleaning of the ghats.

(e) Various projects amounting to Rs. 963.53 crore have been sanctioned so far for pollution abatement of river Ganga under Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I & II in the states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal, against which an expenditure of Rs. 757.08 crore has been incurred so far. Kanpur and Allahabad towns in Uttar Pradesh are covered under the Plan.